(a) whether it is a fact that the International Airlines and other agencies working at terminal II of Indira Gandhi International Airport have lodged strong protest against rodent menace for causing excessive damage to sophisticated and costly equipment; if so, what is the extent of damage caused and what remedial measures have been taken;

(b) whether the Airlines Operating Committee in its meeting held in August, 1988, had observed that the false ceiling, administrative block restaurant and transit area are full of rats and whether any violation notices have been issued and penalaties imposed; if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that unhygeinic conditions exist at the snack bar; if so, what action has been taken against the staff; and

(d) whether the matter has been brought to the notice of the Chairman, IAAI; if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. No extensive damage has, however, been reported on account of rodent menace. Periodic inspections of sites has been organised by IAAI for devising suitable measures to deal with the problem.

(b) The A.O.C. had referred to this problem in their meeting held in August, 1988. Although no penalties have been imposed on this account, the agencies concerned have been suitably advised about the measures to be taken to reduce the menace.

(c) Yes, Sir, Notice for termination of contract has been issued to the agency running the snack bar.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Airport Director, I.G.I. Airport has been directed to take remedial measures.

Renaming of the Maniyatchi Railway Station as Vanchi Maniyachi

2271. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister had announced recently in a public meeting at Tenkasi that the Maniyatchi Railway Station will henceforth named as Vanchi Maniyachi; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in making the necessary official announcement and alterations by the Ministry of Railways at the concerned Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A notification regarding change in name has already been issued by Southern Railway on 26-10-1988.

Suspension of a pilot by M.D. of Vapudoot

2272. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: whether it is a fact that a pilot was suspended for three days in June, 1988 by the M.D. of Vayudoot for refusing to ferry a Dornier aircraft from Bombay to New Delhi with three vital flight navigational instruments being inoperative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): No, Sir.

2273. [*Transferred to the 1st December, 1988*].

Averting the crash of Air bus of Indian Airlines

2274. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report

which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 21st October, 1988, to the effect that a major crash of Indian Airlines Airbus from Singapore was averted by the timely action of the aircraft commander;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the causes of the failure of its hydraulic system have since been inquired into; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. However, it is not correct to say that the flight was heading for a major crash as modern aircraft are equipped with duplicate/standby and alternate systems which are utilised in case of flight defects. The aircraft had experienced green hydraulic system failure.

(d) The occurrence will be investigated by a permanent Investigation Board constituted by the Indian Airlines in association with a representative of Director General of Civil Aviation. Based on the findings and recommendations made by the Board, follow up action will be taken to avoid such recurrences.

North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology at Itanagar

2275. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are two streams namely, Applied Science and Technology, which were introduced in the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology established at Itanagar in 1985;

(b) whether the first batch of Applied Science students, after qualifying for admission in the four-year second Module of the degree course in Applied Science, have been denied admission and have been asked by the authorities to take admission in the Technology Stream;

(c) whether it is a fact that in case of individual admitted students the authorities are compelling them to sign a bond to the tune that he or she shall have the option to continue only for the diploma course in Agricultural Engineering in the Institute.

(d) whether the students who took admission in Applied Science have objected to the such decision of the authorities which goes against the prospectus of the Institute and advertisements issued from time to time for admission; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Government sanction of 1985 the institution of degree courses would be subject to appraisal and concurrence of Planning Commission and would be taken up only after the first batch of the diploma courses has passed out. In the absence of a degree programme in Applied Sciences, the students were advised to take admission in Technology Stream.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In view of the difficulties being faced by the students necessary action has been initiated to prepone the appraisal of the programmes of the Institute.